

## POTPOURRI

Department of Environmental Quality  
Office of Environmental Assessment  
Environmental Planning Division

Revision to the Water Quality Management Plan  
Volume 1: Continuing Planning Process  
(0403Pot1)

Under the authority of the Environmental Quality Act, R.S. 30:2071 et seq., the secretary gives notice that procedures have been initiated to amend Volume 1 of the Louisiana Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP).

The Louisiana Water Quality Management Plan is a document associated with water quality management activities carried out by the state to assist in implementation of the Louisiana Water Quality Regulations, LAC 33:Part IX, and the federal Clean Water Act. The WQMP is divided into volumes. Each volume addresses different issues. Updates and changes to the different volumes are made periodically. Volume 1 of the WQMP is entitled *The Continuing Planning Process* (CPP). The CPP specifies the various processes that the state employs to manage its water quality programs. The last revision to the CPP, Volume 1 of the WQMP, identified by log number 0209Pot2 in the September 20, 2002, issue of the *Louisiana Register*, was approved by the Environmental Protection Agency in a letter from Miguel I. Flores, Director, Water Quality Protection Division, USEPA 6, to L. Hall Bohlinger, Secretary, LDEQ, dated March 28, 2003. These proposed changes to the CPP are intended to clarify the minor differences in the certification and approval process between changes to regulations and changes to the WQMP/CPP.

A public hearing on these proposed changes will be held on April 26, 2004, at 1:30 p.m. in the Galvez Building, Oliver Pollock Conference Room C111, 602 N. Fifth Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802. Interested persons are invited to attend and submit oral comments on the proposed changes. Should individuals with a disability need an accommodation in order to participate, contact Judith A. Schuerman, Ph.D., at the address given below or at (225) 219-3550. Free parking is available across the street in the Galvez parking garage when department personnel at the hearing validate the parking ticket.

All interested persons are invited to submit written comments on the proposed amendments to the CPP. Such comments must be received no later than May 3, 2004, at 4:30 p.m., and should be sent to Kimberly Hamilton-Davis, Office of Environmental Assessment, Environmental Planning Division, Standards, Assessment and Nonpoint Section, Box 4314, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4314 or to FAX (225) 219-3582 or by e-mail to [kimberly.hamilton-davis@la.gov](mailto:kimberly.hamilton-davis@la.gov). A copy of this proposal can be purchased by contacting the DEQ Public Records Center at (225) 219-3168. Check or money order is required in advance for each copy.

This proposed document is available for inspection at the following DEQ office locations from 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.: 602 N. Fifth Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802; 1823 Highway 546, West Monroe, LA 71292; State Office Building, 1525 Fairfield Avenue, Shreveport, LA 71101; 1301 Gadwall Street, Lake Charles, LA 70615; 201 Evans Road, Building 4, Suite 420, New Orleans, LA 70123; 111 New Center Drive, Lafayette, LA 70508; 104 Lococo Drive, Raceland, LA 70394 or on the Internet at <http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/planning/regs/index.htm>.

James H. Brent, Ph.D.  
Assistant Secretary

# LOUISIANA WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN

## **VOLUME 1 THE CONTINUING PLANNING PROCESS (CPP)**

### Introduction

\*\*\*

### Certification Procedure

\*\*\*

#### 3. Review/Certification/ Approval Process

##### a. Public Review

Draft regulations and WQMP updates will be announced as available for public review and comment in the State journal and in other newspapers located throughout the State as appropriate. The public comment period extends for at least 30 days, and a public hearing may be announced at this time. The documents will be available for public review at the Department of Environmental Quality and on the LDEQ web site. If sufficient public interest is shown to warrant such action, a public hearing will be considered to receive further comment. If a public hearing is deemed appropriate, a notice will be published 30 days in advance. The following is a list of State journals and newspapers used for public notices:

The Baton Rouge Advocate

Lafayette Daily Advertiser

Lake Charles American Press

Alexandria Daily Town Talk

Monroe Morning World/News Star World

New Orleans Times Picayune

The Shreveport Journal/Times

##### b. Response to Public Comments

Comments received by the LDEQ concerning proposed changes to the WQMP will be ~~responded to by the appropriate division~~ addressed in a Responsiveness Summary. The response may take one of three forms: (1) Incorporation of the comment into a revision to the document, (2) rejection of the comment, or (3) simple acknowledgment of the comment. A justification will be supplied for each comment response action. The public comments and the agency responses

will be kept on record at the LDEQ and will be supplied to EPA upon request. The Responsiveness Summary will be submitted with the final document to EPA.

c. EPA Review and Comment

LDEQ will submit ~~draft~~ proposed revisions of the Surface Water Quality Standards and other water quality regulations to EPA for review prior to promulgation. The CPP and other volumes of the WQMP will be submitted to EPA for review and approval whenever they are revised. LDEQ will submit draft TMDL reports to EPA for review and comment at the same time that they are made available for public review and comment. Upon completion of the public review/comment process, LDEQ will submit the final TMDL to EPA with documentation of the public comment period and comments and responses. Upon EPA approval of the TMDL, the Management Plan will be updated to include the approved TMDL and resulting wasteload allocations.

4. Certification and Approval

After promulgation of Surface Water Quality Standards and other water quality regulations, LDEQ's General Counsel will send a letter to the Director, Water Quality Protection Division, USEPA, Region 6, certifying that the adoption has complied with all applicable state laws and regulations.

~~After documents~~ proposed changes to the CCP/WQMP have undergone public inspection and response, and/or revisions have been prepared for the comments received, a certification letter from ~~the Secretary of~~ The Assistant Secretary of the Office of Environmental Assessment LDEQ, will be submitted to the EPA's Director, ~~of the Office of Water~~ Water Quality Protection Division, USEPA, Region 6. The certification letter will state the name of the document volume being certified, that each has passed through the public review process, and that each is being presented to EPA for approval as official revisions to the WQMP. The submittal letter will also transmit final copies of the documents being certified, as well as the Responsiveness Summaries. Upon receipt and review of the certification letter, the final document(s), and the Responsiveness Summaries, EPA will take official action on the updates. For updates not fully approved, the Regional Administrator will inform LDEQ, in writing, of those actions which must be taken in order to obtain full approval.

\*\*\*